

**Governor's Proposed Budget FY18-FY-19
Appropriations Hearing
Department of Housing
Friday, February 17, 2017**

Senator Osten, Senator Formica, Representative Walker, Representative Ziobron, and Members of the Committee, thank you for hearing my testimony today on the important investments through the Department of Housing to support efforts to end homelessness in CT.

I would like to take the time to discuss how importance housing is to homeless men, women and families. Most of these individuals have fallen on hard times or had difficulty maintaining their rent because of low income. These individuals are a vast diversity population who are below income.

Section 8 housing and Rapid Rehousing are good source of funding to assist them in getting housed. However there are many that fall short of below poverty line. Section 8 voucher are excellence but only for the chronic homelessness. There is a need for further assistance for families and individuals that does not meet the qualification for chronic homelessness

Thank you

Barbara Santiago
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